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EXPEDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, 1905-1906

XVI

A NEW SPECIES OF THE HYMENOPTEROUS GENUS SCLERODERMA FROM THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

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Scleroderma galapagense, new species

?. Length 2.5–3 mm. Head and thorax pale brown to castaneous, abdomen fuscous or piceous, lighter toward apex and at the incisures; legs and antennæ pale yellowish brown; wings entirely absent. Head shining, faintly shagreened, with a few isolated punctures; one-half longer than wide; eyes one-fifth as long as the head, bare; ocelli absent; head widest at the middle, slightly narrowed behind with the angles rounded; malar space extremely short. Head below with sparse long pale backwardly curved hairs. Antennæ 13-jointed, reaching to the vertex, pedicel half as long as the scape and twice as long as thick; first flagellar joint minute, quadrate; second and third

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transverse, no longer than the first; fifth and following quadrate except the last which is twice as long as thick. Thorax of nearly even width, four times as long as broad except where the mesopleuræ project at the sides, propleuræ not visible from above; pronotum shagreened, twice as long as wide and slightly narrowed from its posterior angles to the neck. Mesonotum shagreened, rounded behind, two-thirds as wide as pronotum; axillæ (metanotum) triangular on the sides, meeting medially as a narrow band; propodeum with the sides nearly parallel, very slightly constricted near the base, declivous on its posterior third, its surface more coarsely shagreened than the mesonotum. Pleuræ shagreened, the propleura nearly smooth; mesopleura strongly protuberant. Abdomen smooth and shining, over twice as long as the thorax; with a few scattered whitish hairs laterally toward apex; first segment semicircularly rounded at apex; following ones with the margins straight; second and third subequal, each half wider than long; following growing shorter, apex acute. Legs stout, the middle tibiæ faintly denticulate, but not spinulose; claws slender, simple,

Described from six specimens, taken under a stone in a colony of *Prenolepis (Nylanderia) fulva* Mayr, subsp. *nesiotis* Wheeler on James Island, Galapagos at an altitude of 2000 ft.

This species is very similar to the other members of this cosmopolitan genus which is already known from many oceanic islands as well as from the continental areas. In the form of the head, eyes and thorax it seems to be most closely related to S. sidneyanum Westwood.

Holotype, No. 462, female, and one paratype, female, Museum California Academy of Sciences, and 4 paratypes in author's collection.